

U.S. Embassy Majuro – “My Island Home” Photo Contest

Summary

In celebration of Earth Day, the U.S. Embassy in Majuro invites young people in the Marshall Islands to take part in the **My Island Home** photo contest. (See eligibility details below.) Participants should submit one original photo that represents the photographer’s interest in his/her island home, the need to keep our islands clean and safe, and ways in which we can live an environmentally friendly livelihood. All submissions will be displayed on U.S. Embassy Majuro’s [Facebook page](#), and Facebook friends will take part in the judging.

How to Participate

Choose one original digital photo that represents your thoughts on the theme, **My Island Home**, and submit your photo to the competition. To submit your photo, follow these instructions:

- **Each participant may only submit one photo.**
- Submission must be an original photo. Photo must be formatted as a JPG image, between 72 and 300 dpi resolution, with a file size of at least 1MB but not larger than 5MB.
- Include the following information with your submission: name, date of birth, place of birth, email, telephone number, location of current residence, name of school, location of photo, date (approximate) photo was taken, photo title and brief description.
- Submit your photo to: USEmbassyMajuroPhotoContest@state.gov
- *After emailing the photo no changes may be made.*
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Eligibility and Additional Information

- THERE IS NO FEE TO ENTER THIS CONTEST.
- The contest begins on February 15, 2012. Entries will be accepted until March 15, 2012.
- The contest is open to youth between the ages of 14 and 25, currently residing in the Marshall Islands. *Employees of the U.S. Embassy Majuro, other U.S. government agencies, or U.S. government contractors and their immediate family members are not eligible to participate.*
- By entering this competition, entrants declare that they have read and accept the contest rules. To qualify, submitters must provide accurate and complete information.
- Before being published on the U.S. Embassy Facebook page, all photos will be screened by an Embassy staff to ensure compliance with these Official Rules and Facebook’s Conditions of Service.

Requirements, Restrictions and Regulations

- Photo entry must not contain any obscene or sexually explicit material, violence, factors that may incite violence or the use of drugs or alcohol, or sales promotions.
- Entry must not have images or content that may be considered abusive, derogatory, or disrespectful to the competition, groups, individuals or institutions.

- Photo submitted by the participant must be the original, should not be subject to copyright and must not violate or harm others' intellectual property rights, privacy and publicity of third parties (except as expressly permitted below)
- Entry must comply with both U.S. and laws of the Marshall Islands. The content of the photo submitted must be suitable for viewing by a global audience.
- Please note, if any people are in the photo - by submitting a photo to the competition, the competitor declares that he or she has obtained written consent from the individuals in the photo and also claims to be in possession of reliable documentation to that effect upon request (in case of presence of children a release by a parent or guardian may be requested).
- The competitor declares that he or she has obtained the necessary rights, licenses, permits and permissions to use the photographic material. Failure to obtain such rights, consent, licenses and authorizations may result in disqualification from the competition. The Embassy makes no allowances for fair use of copyrighted material. In case of any problem or difference of opinion with regard to compliance, interpretation or application of such requirements or other provisions contained in these Regulations, the Embassy reserves the exclusive right to resolve such matters at their discretion.
- Once a submission has been emailed to the U.S. Embassy in Majuro the competitor's name, school and place of residence may be disclosed publicly at the discretion of the Embassy.
- The competitor is responsible for the photo and the material it contains and for the consequences of publication on Facebook.
- In case of sabotage or tampering by one or more of their competitors, or by persons acting on their behalf, the Embassy reserves the sole right to disqualify such persons.
- If for any reason, the contest does not take place as planned due to force majeure including infection by computer virus, tampering, unauthorized intervention, fraud, technical failures, or any other cause which could adversely affect management, security, integrity and proper conduct of the Contest, the Embassy reserves the right to cancel, modify or terminate the Contest.
- By entering the competition you agree to not hold responsible any staff of the U.S. Government regarding claims for damages, obligations, losses, liabilities, costs, debt, and expenses (including legal limits) resulting from: (i) the use of and access to Facebook and Web sites of contests on the contest, (ii) violation of these Official Rules or the terms and conditions of service for Facebook, (iii) violation of any rights of third parties, violations of copyright, trademark, privacy, publicity or other proprietary rights in the contest, or any damage caused to third parties from the picture published.
- The Embassy will not be held responsible for any disputes between competitors. Please note, if the competitors act in an inappropriate manner then they can be disqualified.
- Contestants retain ownership of their photo. However, by posting a photo in the contest, entrants grant the Embassy a license to use the image, non-exclusively and royalty-free to reproduce, distribute, and/or view the photo in any format and through any media channels for an indefinite period in connection with the activities and operations of the competition and for the purposes of public diplomacy efforts.
- The Embassy and the review panel reserve the right to reject photo that do not comply with the Contest rules or applicable laws.

- The Embassy reserves the right at all times to check the validity of the competitors and disqualify those found not complying with these Regulations or the Terms and Conditions dictated by Facebook, or anyone accused of acting in bad faith, in an unsportsmanlike manner, or with the intent to annoy, abuse, threaten or harass any other person. The Embassy also reserves the right to request additional documentation to verify eligibility and compliance with these Regulations.

Disclaimer

This promotion is in no way sponsored, endorsed or administered by, or associated with, Facebook. You are providing your information to the U.S. Embassy Majuro and not to Facebook. The information and images you provide will be used solely for the purposes of the U.S. Embassy Majuro Photo Contest *My Island Home* and non-commercial public diplomacy efforts. By entering in this contest you will not increase your chances of obtaining any type of visa to the United States.

PRIZES

There are two ways in which each photo will be evaluated and two corresponding prizes for winners in each category:

AMBASSADOR’S PRIZE: The U.S. Ambassador, Martha Campbell, will choose one photo to receive the Ambassador’s Prize. The winner of the Ambassador’s Prize will receive a brand new SONY Cybershot digital camera.

For the **Ambassador’s Prize**, the Ambassador will review all photos submitted by the deadline and choose a winner based on the following criteria:

- Relevance to the theme *My Island Home*
- Creativity and originality

PEOPLE’S CHOICE AWARD: Photos that comply with these Official Rules will be included in a Contest Album on the Facebook page where they can be voted on by “liking” the picture. The photo that receives the most “likes” will receive the People’s Choice Award. The winner of the People’s Choice Award will also receive a brand new SONY Cybershot digital camera.

For the **People’s Choice Award**, U.S. Embassy Majuro Facebook fans will be invited to vote for the winner on Facebook as soon as the photos are received and displayed on the U.S. Embassy Facebook page. Photos will be loaded as received after the start date of the contest on February 15, 2012. Photo submission will close on March 15, 2012. Fans may access the Contest Album and click "like" to cast their votes among all entries up until March 22, 2012.

On March 23, 2012, the top ten photos at the end of this first phase will be posted again to a Finalist Contest Album – and the “like” count reset to zero. U.S. Embassy Majuro Facebook

fans then have until April 6, 2012 to choose the final winner by clicking “like” once again for their favorite photo from among the finalists. **All voting will be closed on April 6, 2012.**

Winners will be announced publicly on the U.S. Embassy Majuro Facebook page and the U.S. Embassy Majuro website (<http://majuro.usembassy.gov/>) on April 18, 2012.

Before naming the winners, the embassy staff reserves the right to verify that the procedure for participation of the potential winner is in full compliance with these Official Rules. If the U.S. Embassy fails to make contact with a potential finalist or winner, then the finalist will be disqualified and the committee will deem the next highest scoring photo the new finalist.